

Message Text

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41

ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PRS-01 SAM-01 NSC-05 SS-15 DODE-00

USIE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 /052 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/P:WJGEHRON:SS

APPROVED BY EUR:LBLAINGEN

EUR/P - MR. SEIDNER

EUR/IB - MR. LUKENS

S/PRS - MR. TRATTNER (SUB)

S/AM - MR. PEZZULLO

NSC - MR. CLIFT

S/S - MR. MOFFAT

DOD/ISA - COL. WALLACE

----- 128274

O 211727Z MAY 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE

INFO JUSMG/MAAG SPAIN IMMEDIATE

16TH AF TORREJON IMMEDIATE

COMNAVACT S IMM

USCINCEUR IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:MARR, SP

SUBJECT:BASE NEGOTIATIONS AND PRESS ACTIVITY

REF: MADRID 3381

1. WE UNDERSTAND PROBLEMS PRESENTED EMBASSY BY INCREASING
NUMBER NEWS MEDIA REQUESTS FOR INTERVIEWS AND BACKGROUNDEERS
ON BASE NEGOTIATIONS AS WELL AS REQUESTS FOR VISITS TO
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ROTA AND TORREJON.

2. IN LIGHT FORTHCOMING PRESIDENTIAL VISIT, THESE ARE LEGITIMATE NEWS REQUESTS WHICH WE WOULD HOPE EMBASSY WOULD MAKE EFFORT TO SATISFY.

3. WHILE WE SEE NO NEED GRANT ON-THE-RECORD INTERVIEWS OR PROVIDE SPECIAL BACKGROUNDEES, WE BELIEVE EMBASSY SHOULD FOLLOW NORMAL PROCEDURE OF RESPONDING TO INQUIRIES ALONG LINES THAT:

--U.S. REGARDS SPAIN AS FRIENDLY EUROPEAN STATE WITH AN IMPORTANT ROLE TO PLAY IN EUROPE AND MEDITERRANEAN.

--U.S. WOULD LIKE TO SEE SPAIN PLAY LARGER ROLE IN WESTERN

SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS, THROUGH CLOSER TIES TO NATO, LEADING EVENTUALLY TO MEMBERSHIP IN NATO.

--TWO GOVERNMENTS COOPERATE CLOSELY IN DEFENSE AND OTHER FIELDS, AND PRESIDENT WILL QUITE NATURALLY DISCUSS THESE MATTERS WITH SPANISH LEADERSHIP, INCLUDING FUTURE COOPERATION.

--DEFENSE COOPERATION BETWEEN SPAIN AND USG BEGAN WITH SIGNING OF FIRST AGREEMENT IN 1953. THE 1970 AGREEMENT OF FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION EXPIRES IN SEPTEMBER. THE CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS AIM AT EXTENDING DEFENSE COOPERATION INTO THE FUTURE.

--SINCE DETAILS OF BASE ARRANGEMENTS ARE STILL UNDER NEGOTIATION IT IS NOT POSSIBLE COMMENT ON THEM.

--THERE HAVE BEEN FIVE NEGOTIATING ROUNDS HELD RESPECTIVELY IN MADRID AND WASHINGTON AND SIXTH ROUND WILL BE HELD IN WASHINGTON, PROBABLY IN JUNE.

4. EMBASSY MIGHT ALSO MAKE AVAILABLE TEXTS OF AGREEMENT OF FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION AND THOSE OF FIVE COMMUNIQUES ISSUED TODATE ON STATUS BASE NEGOTIATIONS.

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5. WE BELIEVE IT IS IN OUR INTEREST TO FACILITATE VISITS BY U.S. NETWORK TELEVISION CREWS TO TORREJON AND ROTA. WE WOULD SUGGEST VISIT BE ON A ONE TIME NON-EXCLUSIVE BASIS WITH ON-BASE INTERVIEWS EITHER EXCLUDED OR HELD TO INTERVIEWERS' AREA OF EXPERTISE.

6. EMBASSY SHOULD BEAR IN MIND PROVISION OF SECTION 659 OF FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT (FAA) OF 1974, WHICH

PROHIBITS ASSISTANCE UNDER FAA TO COUNTRIES WITH BASES
CONSTRUCTED, MAINTAINED OR OPERATED BY U.S., FROM
WHICH U.S. MILITARY PERSONNEL CARRY OUT MILITARY
OPERATIONS, UNLESS THE PRESIDENT DETERMINES THAT THAT
GOVERNMENT PERMITS ACCESS, CONSISTENT WITH SECURITY, BY
BONA FIDE NEWS CORRESPONDENTS OF U.S. TO SUCH BASES.
EMBASSY SHOULD BRING SECTION 659 TO ATTENTION OF ANY GOS
OFFICIALS WHO ARE INCLINED TO OPPOSE BASE VISITS BY
NEWSMEN. INGERSOLL

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